

Fire Behavior Forecast Number 7

Name of Fire: Buckweed

Prediction For: Day & Night Shift 10/25/07

Day Forecast Issued: 10/24/07 2100

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Weather See Weather forecast. Pay special attention to change in winds!

Fuels The fuels around the fire area are primarily mixed chaparral comprised of chemise, sage, and grass intermixed. Brush fuel age class is 10+ years old and approximately 15 tons per acre (light to moderate load). These are represented by both fuel model 4 & 6, depending on height, loadings, and live component. There are several burned areas from 2002 and 2003, which have lighter/younger fuels.

Fire Behavior

General: Pay close attention to afternoon wind direction change, especially in Div Z in the area of DP7. Where wind, slope and fuels align with active fire expect rates of spread to be from **24 ch/hr – 179 ch/hr** depending on windspeed & slope. Flame lengths could reach **13 – 32ft** in areas of mature brush. Probability of Ignition will be 40%-90%. Without a major wind event expect spotting to occur within ¼ mile.

Specific: All Divisions including M – The areas which have already burned seem to be holding with very little residual heat along containment lines. Continue to patrol for undetected hot areas that may pose an escapement risk. Interior unburned islands are heating up and burning out. Assess these for risk of escaping firelines or damaging valuable resources. The best action is likely to be to monitor them and let them consume the fuels so they do not flare up later.

Initial Attack – Any increase in burning activity indicates that an undetected spot has encountered unburned fuels, whether inside or outside the fireline, or a new start. The fire behavior that can be expected is listed under **General Fire Behavior** above. These fires will immediately exhibit 13 foot and greater flame lengths which will quickly exceed your capability to attack them at the head. Aircraft can be successful if utilized while fire activity is small in size. Fall back to basics. Anchor and flank. Work on good decision making based on Risk Assessments IRPG page 1!

Safety

Continue to be aware of your environmental conditions. Chose your battles and remember that attacking the head of these fires will have little to no success, especially when accompanied by any wind.